

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, Siegfried Dachtler, hereby declare that I am a citizen of Germany and a resident of Fehrleinweg 6, D-70499 Stuttgart, Germany; that I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

LIFTER AND SEPARATOR FOR STACKED FLEXIBLE FLAT WORKPIECES
the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s) : Priority Claimed

| NUMBER | COUNTRY | FILING DATE | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
|------------|---------|------------------|--|
| 00126628.7 | Europe | December 4, 2000 | |

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint Peter L. Costas, Registration No. 18,637, whose Post Office Address is 225 Asylum Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103, my attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Address all correspondence to Peter L. Costas at the aforesaid address and direct all telephone calls to him at Area Code 860, Telephone No. 241-2630.

Date

SIEGFRIED DACHTLER
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